A NEW MITE OF THE GENUS *EUPTEROTEGAEUS* FROM OREGON[1] (CRYPTOSTIGMATA: CEPHEIDAE)

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During a recent collecting trip into the northwestern part of the United States, many unusual mites were found. Among these was a new species of moss mite of the genus *Eupterotegaeus*. This now brings the number of species recorded from the United States to three, and all have been found in the states of Colorado, Utah, Washington and now Oregon. A description of this new species follows below.

Eupterotegaeus rhamphosus, n. sp.

Diagnosis.— Rostrum rounded, with out median spine; lamellae large, projecting over rostrum, with broadly rounded lateral margins and sharp "beak-like" inner margins; a triangular projection mediad to pteromorphae along dorsosejugal suture: differing from *E. spinatus* in the lack of translamellar spine and from *E. rostratus* in the rounded rostrum and sharply pointed lamellar cusps, and from both in having a projection mediad of humeral processes on dorsosejugal suture and all legs monodactylous. The trivial name comes from the Greek meaning "curving beak" and refers to the sharply pointed lamellar cusps.

Description.— Dark reddish-brown color; prodorsum about two-thirds as long as hysterosoma and approximately as long as broad; rostrum rounded with small lateral projections; rostral hairs simple, inserted in anterolateral margins of rostrum; lamellae over three times as long as broad of nearly equal width throughout, lamellar cusps ending in sharp incurved anterior medial tips resembling a beak; lamellar hairs simple, as long as width of lamellae, incurved, extended beyond tip of lamellae and inserted near anterolateral edge; interlamellar hairs missing in type specimen, their insertions mediad of pseudostigmata; pseudostigmata heavy, cup-shaped, with roughened edges, directed anterolaterally; sensillus club-shaped, shorter than the distance between the pseudostigmata, about twice as long as lamellar hairs, with a finely setose tip; no exobothridial hairs observed on type specimen.

Hysterosoma rounded, with roughened anterolateral pteromorphs projected anteriorly; a triangular projection mediad of pteromorphs along dorsosejugal suture; surface with a light rectangular pattern; nine pairs of short, marginal setae observed, each seta set on a raised tubercle; areae porosae or muscle attachment scars along lateral margins of hysterosoma (Fig. 1).

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Camerostome egg-shaped, with setae as shown in Fig. 2; a heavy, exposed apodeme projecting laterad at level of pedotecta I; ventral setae as shown in Fig. 2; genital aperture with flattened sides, trapezoidal, about as broad as long, each genital cover with six hairs; anal aperture egg-shaped, about one-third longer than genital aperture and separated from genital opening by about one-half its length, each

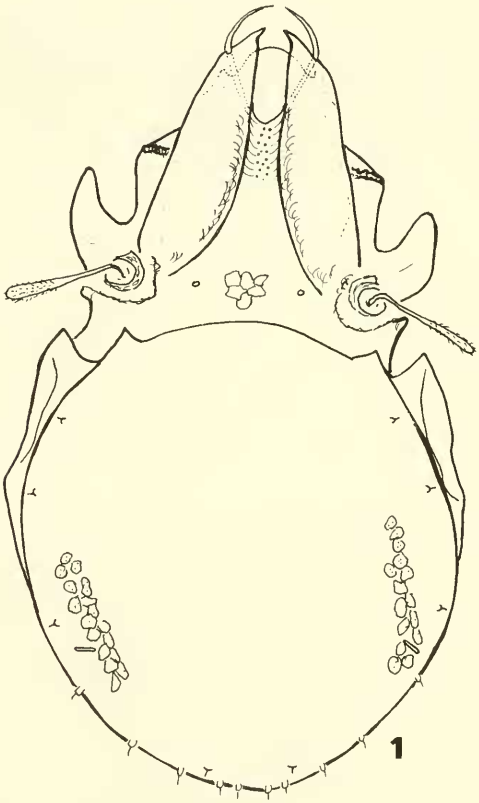

Fig. 1. *Eupterotegaeus rhamphosus*, from the dorsal aspect, legs omitted.

cover with two setae; preanal piece prominent; aggenital setae inserted remotely from genital aperture, at level midway between genital and anal apertures; three pairs of adanals observed on type specimen, ada: 1, 2 posterior to anal aperture, ada: 3 inserted laterad of cover at level near middle of anal plate; *iad* fissure located between aggenital setae and ada: 3 at level of anterior edge of anal plate.

Entire body and legs covered with a cerotegument. All legs monodactylous, contrasting to tridactylous legs of *E. rostratus* and *E. spinatus*. Size: Length 396μ; width 232μ.

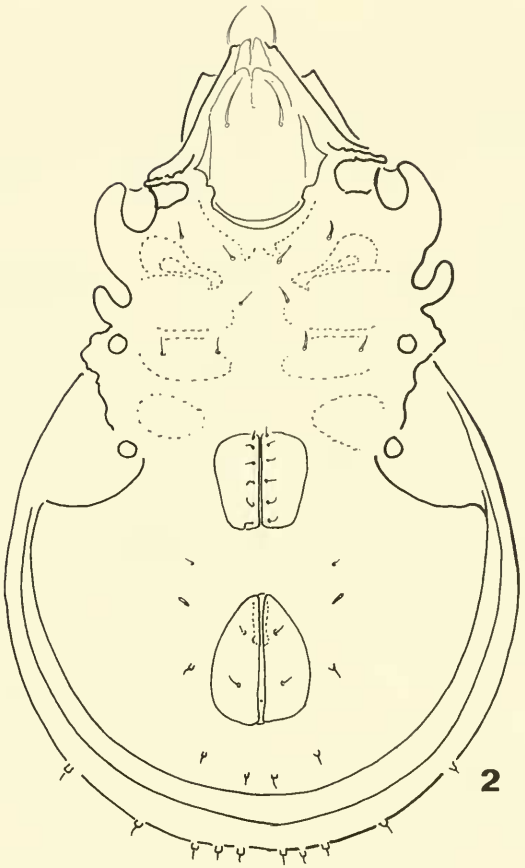

Fig. 2. Venter of *E. rhamphosus*, legs omitted.

The type specimen, a male, was collected by H. Higgins from moss along stream, 10 miles south of La Grande, Union Co., Oregon. 26 June 1968. This type specimen is broken and the drawings are partly reconstructions. The type was deposited in the U. S. National Museum.

Key to the Species of Eupterotegaeus

1. Lamellae rather narrow toward distal half with "shoe-shaped" apices ..... *E. ornatissimus* (Berlese)
   Lamellae broader, with nearly parallel sides 2

2. Legs monodactylous; a triangular projection mediad of pteromorphs along dorsosejugal suture .....
   ..... *E. rhamphosus* Higgins & Woolley

Legs heterotridactylous; no triangular projection mediad of pteromorphs 3

3. Prodorsum with a distinct translamella ..... *E. spinatus* Higgins & Woolley

Prodorsum without a translamella ..... *E. rostratus* Higgins & Woolley

Discussion.— In our previous paper (1963) on this genus we inadevertently did not catch a spelling error in the generic name. We spelled it *Eupterotegeus*, which is incorrect and should be written *Eupterotegaeus*.

References

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